

## ATTACHMENT 7

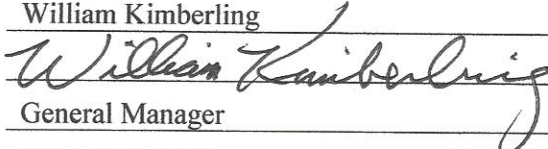
### Consumer Confidence Report Certification Form

(to be submitted with a copy of the CCR)

Water System Name: Las Flores Water Company

Water System Number: 1910061

The water system named above hereby certifies that its Consumer Confidence Report was distributed on July 15, 2012 (*date*) to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given). Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the California Department of Public Health.

Certified by: Name: William Kimberling  
Signature:   
Title: General Manager  
Phone Number: ( 626 )797-1138 Date: July 15, 2012

*To summarize report delivery used and good-faith efforts taken, please complete the below by checking all items that apply and fill-in where appropriate:*

☒ CCR was distributed by mail or other direct delivery methods. Specify other direct delivery methods used: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ "Good faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following methods:

- ☐ Posting the CCR on the Internet at www.\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area (attach zip codes used)
- ☐ Advertising the availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of press release)
- ☐ Publication of the CCR in a local newspaper of general circulation (attach a copy of the published notice, including name of newspaper and date published)
- ☐ Posted the CCR in public places (attach a list of locations)
- ☐ Delivery of multiple copies of CCR to single-billed addresses serving several persons, such as apartments, businesses, and schools
- ☐ Delivery to community organizations (attach a list of organizations)
- ☐ Other (attach a list of other methods used)

☐ For systems serving at least 100,000 persons: Posted CCR on a publicly-accessible internet site at the following address: www.\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For privately-owned utilities: Delivered the CCR to the California Public Utilities Commission

*This form is provided as a convenience and may be used to meet the certification requirement of section 64483(c), California Code of Regulations.*

# LAS FLORES WATER COMPANY

## 2011 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Las Flores Water Company (Las Flores) is pleased to provide you with our Annual Water Quality Report, which contains information about the quality of drinking water we deliver to you. You have been receiving a water quality report each year from us for the past 22 years. This format meets California requirements for reporting water quality information to customers of public water systems (Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien):

- Where does our water come from?
- What are the possible sources of contaminants in tap water and bottled water?
- How is our drinking water treated?
- What, if any, contaminants have been detected in our drinking water?
- Is there reason for concern about organic solvents, nitrate and radon in our water?
- Are certain people more vulnerable to the effects of some contaminants in drinking water?
- Were there any violations of drinking water regulations?
- What are the definitions for all those regulatory and technical terms in the report?
- Who can I contact for more information and when does the Board of Directors meet?

Other educational information in this report informs you about drinking water safety and, hopefully, encourages you to consider the challenges of delivering a safe and protected supply of drinking water.

Las Flores Water Company serves approximately 4,500 people in North-Central Altadena. The General Manager oversees the Company's operations and reports to a five member Board of Directors. The Board meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month. An annual shareholder meeting is held in March. All meetings are at the Company office located at 428 E. Sacramento Street, Altadena, CA. For more information, you may contact General Manager, Mr. William Kimberling, at (626) 797-1138.

In 2011, Las Flores distributed approximately 702 acre feet of water to its customers. This is nearly equivalent to 229 million gallons. One acre foot is enough water to cover one acre of land, one foot deep, or 325,900 gallons. Thirty five percent of the water came from one well pumping from the Raymond groundwater basin. Sixty five percent of the total was purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, via a connection with the Foothill Municipal Water District. This water is a blend of Colorado River water delivered through Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct and surface water from Northern California delivered through the State of California Water Project Aqueduct. Metropolitan's water is filtered and disinfected at the Weymouth Filtration Plant in La Verne. Chlorine disinfectant is added to all water served by Las Flores to kill micro-organisms and prevent re-growth of bacteria in storage reservoirs and distribution pipelines.

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: 1) microbial contaminants, such as virus and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; 2) inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming; 3) pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; 4) organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems; 5) radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Health Services (CDPH) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Las Flores is required by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to test well water for organic chemicals, minerals, metals, and bacteria. Also, we are required to test regularly for bacteria and total trihalomethanes in our distribution system. Lead and copper are tested in tap water from selected residences. Metropolitan is responsible for water quality testing of their treated water. Your drinking water was in compliance with all CDPH water quality standards in 2011.

As in past years, the Detected Contaminant Chart compares the quality of your tap water to State drinking water standards. The water quality chart lists all the regulated drinking water contaminants (and unregulated contaminants requiring monitoring) that were detected during the 2011 calendar year. Certain regulated chemicals are monitored less frequently than once each year. The results from the most recent testing done in accordance with the monitoring regulations and the respective sampling year are noted in each table. Some of the data, although more than one year old, are representative of the current drinking water quality.



Groundwater is protected from many infectious organisms, such as the parasite *Cryptosporidium*, by the natural filtration action of water percolating through soils. Current conventional surface water treatment methods remove most *Cryptosporidium* organisms when they are present, but 100 percent elimination cannot be guaranteed. Metropolitan has detected *Cryptosporidium* in some areas of their watershed but has never detected the organism in their treated water. There is no evidence that *Cryptosporidium* has entered our water supply. However, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

As per the Company's notification to you in September, 2007, the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) began adding fluoride to their water deliveries in November 2007, in order to meet California Department of Health (CDPH) requirements. MWD will maintain levels of 0.7 - 0.8 mg/L (parts per million) in their water supply. Las Flores Water Company purchases approximately 65% of its water from MWD, which is then blended with well water for distribution, as needed. Fluoride has been added to public water systems to many cities across the nation for many decades and according to extensive research over 50 years is considered to be the single, most cost-effective method to prevent tooth decay and improve dental health. Las Flores conducts monthly testing for fluoride levels and results are reported to the CDPH, as required. In 2011, fluoride sample levels were within regulatory compliance after the blending of our groundwater with purchased water from The Metropolitan Water District.

An assessment of the drinking groundwater source for Las Flores Water Company was completed in August 2002. The groundwater from the well is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: Automobile repair/body shops, gas stations, parks, dry cleaners, known contaminant plumes, fleet/truck/bus terminals, apts./condos, schools, medical/dental/offices/clinics, wells/water supply, drinking water treatment plants.

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Automobile-carwashes, underground storage tanks (confirmed leaking tanks).

A copy of the completed assessment is available at Las Flores Water Company's office. You may also request a summary of the assessment by calling Donna Powell or William Kimberling at 626-797-1138.

(Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entiende bien):

# LAS FLORES WATER COMPANY GROUNDWATER QUALITY IN 2011

Chemical	MCL ppb	PHG (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Most Recent Sampling Date	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Radiologicals</b>							
Alpha Radiation (pCi/L)	15	NA	9.8	8.7 - 13	No	2011	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	(0)	10	8.9 - 11	No	2011	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>Organic Chemicals</b>							
Tetrachloroethylene - PCE (ppb)	5	(0)	0.5	ND - 0.55	No	2011	Industrial Solvent Spill
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>							
Nitrate (ppm NO3)	45	45	40.8	36 - 49	No	2011	Fertilizers, Septic Tanks
Arsenic (ppb)	10	NA	2	2	No	2011	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Perchlorate (ppb)	6	6	6.4	5.1 - 9.6	No	2011	Aerospace related activities
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.68	0.57 - 1.1	No	2011	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>Secondary Standards**</b>							
Aggressive Index (Corrosivity)	Not Regulated	NA	11.59	11.59	No	2011	Aggressiveness of the water
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	180	180	No	2010	Aggressiveness of the water
Odor (TON)	3	NA	1	1	No	2010	Physical characteristics of the water
Turbidity, laboratory (NTU)	5	NA	0.2	0.2	No	2010	Soil runoff
Chloride** (ppm)	500	NA	46	46	No	2010	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Specific Conductance** (µmho/cm)	1,600	NA	660	660	No	2011	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Sulfate** (ppm)	500	NA	93	93	No	2010	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Total Dissolved Solids** (ppm)	1,000	NA	430	430	No	2010	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>Unregulated Contaminants Requiring Monitoring</b>							
Sodium (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	24	24	NA	2010	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Hardness (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	300	300	NA	2010	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>Other Parameters</b>							
Alkalinity (total) as CA CO3 (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	110	110	No	2011	Aggressiveness of the water
Boron (ppb)	Not Regulated	NA	ND	ND	No	2010	Aggressiveness of the water
Calcium (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	58	58	No	2011	Aggressiveness of the water
Hexavalent chromium (ppb)	Not Regulated	NA	3	3	No	2011	Aggressiveness of the water
Magnesium (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	25	25	No	2010	Aggressiveness of the water
Potassium (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	2	2	No	2010	Aggressiveness of the water



# **METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TREATED SURFACE WATER IN 2011**

Chemical	MCL	PHG, or (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Radiologicals</b>						
Alpha Radiation (pCi/L)	15	NA	ND	ND - 3	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Radiation (pCi/L)	50	NA	4	ND - 5	No	Decay of man-made or natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.5	2	1 -- 2	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>						
Aluminum** (ppb)	1000	600	110	ND - 220	No	Residue from water treatment process
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	ND	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Perchlorate (ppb)	6	6	ND	ND	No	Run off or leaching of natural deposits
Fluoride* (ppm)	2	1	0.8	0.7 - 1.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Secondary Standards</b>						
Chloride** (ppm)	500	NA	70	63 - 76	No	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance** (µmho/cm)	1600	NA	630	320 - 870	No	Substances that form ions in water
Sulfate** (ppm)	500	NA	150	120 - 170	No	Runoff or leaching of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids** (ppm)	1000	NA	440	390 - 480	No	Runoff or leaching of natural deposits
<b>Unregulated Contaminants Requiring Monitoring</b>						
Sodium (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	69	62 - 76	No	Runoff or leaching of natural deposits
Hardness (ppm)	Not Regulated	NA	170	60 - 250	No	Runoff or leaching of natural deposits
Turbidity - combined filter effluent***		MCL (TT)	Turbidity Measurements		TT Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
1) Average amount		5 NTU	0.05		No	Soil run-off
2) Range of detections		5 NTU	0.02 - 0.07		No	Soil run-off

# ABBREVIATIONS AND FOOTNOTES

## Abbreviations

AL	Action Level
DLR	Detection Limits for purpose of Reporting
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
N	Nitrogen
NA	Not Applicable
NC	Not Collected

NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/L	picocuries per liter
PHG	Public Health Goal
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
TON	Threshold Odor Number
TT	Treatment Technique
(µmho/cm)	micromho per centimeter

## Footnotes

- \* In addition to naturally occurring levels, Fluoride is added in accordance with EPA Fluoride Rule mandates.
- \*\* Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard to maintain aesthetic qualities (taste, odor & color).
- \*\*\* Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

\*\*\*\* Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):  
The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

\*\*\*\*\* Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, an indication of particulate matter, some of which may include harmful microorganisms.

\*\*\*\*\* Treatment Technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water that are difficult or impossible to measure directly.



**LAS FLORES WATER COMPANY BIOTESTED WATER QUALITY IN 2011**  
(SOURCES: GROUNDWATER AND REPORTED SURFACE WATER)

Chemical	MCL	PHG, or (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Most Recent Sample Date	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Radiologicals</b>							
Alpha Radiation (pCi/L)	15	NA	8.6	ND - 13	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Radiation (pCi/L)	50	NA	4.0	ND - 5	No	2011	Erosion of natural/man-made deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.5	5.7	ND - 11	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Organic Chemicals</b>							
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)(ppb)	5	0.06	0.5	ND - 0.8	No	2011	Industrial solvent spill
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>							
Nitrate*** (ppm as NO3)	45	10	40.8	36 - 49	No	2011	Fertilizers or septic tanks
Aluminum (ppb)	1000	600	110	ND - 220	No	2011	Residue from water treatment process
Perchlorate (ppb)	6	6	5.2	ND - 9.6	No	2011	Aerospace-related activities
Arsenic (ppb)	50	0.004	1	ND - 2	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride* (ppm)	2	1	0.7	0.51 - 1.0	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits/regulated fluoridation
<b>Secondary Standards**</b>							
Chloride** (ppm)	500	NA	63.8	46 - 76	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
Specific Conductance** (umho/cm)	1600	NA	620	320 - 870	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate** (ppm)	500	NA	133	93 - 170	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids** (ppm)	1000	NA	435	390 - 480	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Unregulated Contaminants Requiring Monitoring</b>							
Sodium (ppm)	NA	NA	57.8	24 - 76	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness (ppm)	NA	NA	195	60 - 300	No	2011	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Turbidity ****</b>							
	MCL	PHG, or (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Most Recent Sample Date	Typical Source of Contaminant
Ground Water Mt. View Well	5	NA	ND	NA	No	2010	Soil runoff
Purchased Water MWD	5	NA	0.05	0.02 - 0.07	No	2011	Soil runoff

# LAS FLORES WATER COMPANY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER QUALITY IN 2011

	MCL	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Typical Source Of Contaminant
Color** (color units)	15	ND	ND	No	Naturally present in groundwater
Turbidity*** (NTU)	5	ND	ND	No	Naturally present in groundwater
Odor** (threshold odor number)	3	1	1	No	Naturally present in groundwater
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	35.1	19.7 - 41.3	No	Byproducts of chlorine disinfection
Halacetic Acids (HAA5)((ppb))	60	19.1	9.6 - 33.4	No	Byproducts of chlorine disinfection
Four locations in the distribution system are tested quarterly for Total Trihalomethanes. Two locations are tested monthly for color, odor and turbidity.					
MRDL	MRDLG	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MRDL Violation	Typical Source
Chlorine Residual	4	0.92	0.72 - 1.31	No	Disinfectant added after treatment

## LEAD AND COPPER ACTION LEVELS AT RESIDENTIAL TAPS

	Action Level (AL)	PHG	90th Percentile Value	Sites Exceeding AL / Number of Sites	AL Violation?	Typical Source Of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	0.99	0/20	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper(ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.99	0/20	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

Every three years, 20 residences are tested for lead and copper at-the-tap. The most recent set of samples was collected in 2010. Lead was not detected. Copper was detected in six samples, none of which exceeded the regulatory action level (AL). A regulatory action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.



Most contaminants detected in our groundwater and surface water sources occur in your drinking water from erosion of natural deposits in soils. However, several detected contaminants are present in tap water as the result of the treatment process itself or from industrial discharges:

- **Perchlorate**, a component of rocket fuel, has seeped into Metropolitan's Colorado River supply over the years from a former manufacturing plant in Henderson, Nevada. Perchlorate contaminating Las Flores's groundwater supply is presumed to be from past discharges at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The CDPH has set a primary **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** of 6 micrograms per liter in October 2007. The highest amount of perchlorate in our well in 2011 was 9.6 micrograms-per-liter and the highest level in Metropolitan's treated water was at **non-detectable** micrograms-per-liter. **At all times**, perchlorate levels for **delivered** water were kept below the **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** of 6 micrograms per liter by blending with purchased water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. **All 2011 blended** water sample results for perchlorate were at **non-detectable levels**. Testing for perchlorate in our well is done weekly, as required.
- **Aluminum** in Metropolitan's drinking water comes from a treatment chemical used to assist in the removal of soil particles and microorganisms.
- **Total trihalomethanes** are a group of organic chemicals that form when chlorine is added to disinfect the water. These chemicals are monitored in the distribution system.
- **Nitrate** in groundwater could come from nitrogen-based fertilizers or leakage from old septic tanks.
- **Tetrachloroethylene** (also known as perchloroethylene or PCE) is a volatile organic solvent used as a degreasing agent. The source of the PCE in our groundwater is not known. Las Flores utilizes a filtration system and/or blending method, with Metropolitan Water District water, for removal of this contaminant.

**Definitions of terms used in the water quality charts:**

- **Public Health Goal (PHG)** is the level of a contaminant in drinking water, below which there is no known or suspected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or suspected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. **Primary drinking water standards** are MCLs for contaminants that effect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements. **Secondary MCLs** are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
- **Regulatory Action Level (AL)** is the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

The groundwater pumped by our well contains the volatile organic solvent perchloroethylene, or PCE. PCE contamination was discovered in late 1997. At that time, the pumped groundwater exceeded the CDPH maximum contaminant level (MCL) for PCE. In 2003, the Company completed the installation of a treatment system for PCE, which has been successful in removing this contaminant below detectable levels. We also utilize a blending method with imported water from Metropolitan, which does not contain PCE, to insure regulatory compliance. Monitoring of blended (delivered) water is done weekly for PCE and other contaminants to insure regulatory compliance. **All 2011 blended (delivered) weekly water sample results for PCE were below non-detectable levels.**

In the summer of 1999, nitrate was discovered in Las Flores groundwater at a level exceeding the CDPH MCL. Blending pumped groundwater with imported surface water reduces both PCE and nitrate below the CDPH MCL. Tests for nitrate in the blended supply are conducted every week. The source of the elevated nitrate could be septic tanks or fertilizers. **Nitrate in drinking water at levels above the MCL of 45 milligrams-per-liter is a health risk for infants under six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider, or choose to use bottled water for mixing formula and juice for your baby. If you are pregnant, you should use bottled water. To date, Las Flores has never served (distributed) water exceeding this MCL to its customers.**

Lead and copper have not been detected in our groundwater sources; however, these metals can increase when water contacts plumbing materials in your home. Because domestic plumbing is the primary source of these metals, drinking water regulations require testing tap water samples for lead and copper inside a number of representative homes every three years. If more than 10 percent of the tap samples from homes exceed the action level set by the USEPA, the water system is required to treat the water in a way that reduces the corrosiveness of the water. Testing completed in 2010 showed no detectable lead levels. Tap water samples from some households contained copper at levels well below the action level of concern.

It is possible that lead levels at your home are higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Infants and young children are more vulnerable to the effects of lead in drinking water than the general population. You can minimize exposure to lead by using the first water in the morning out of your tap for something other than drinking or you can flush the water out of your tap before drinking by running the water for only a few seconds.